

# AL Dress

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## n still for cility

a year for additional person-  
increased transportation  
s and other expenses. These  
s are all mandated by the

e options for the state as  
d by the county commis-  
are to build up or onto the  
courthouse or locate it south  
courthouse across the street  
ent to the Field House.

being proposed by the state  
ora's Corner at about 850  
ain, near the present facility  
of Vernal near the Pepsi

City Mayor Leonard  
states that it is imperative  
appropriations be utilized in  
y manner as anticipated by  
Court Administrator office  
the State Legislature.  
tion to do so could, in fact  
ze these funds," Mayor  
stated in a letter to Chief  
Zimmerman and Lieutenant  
or Walker.

true that we, as elected offi-  
ould want the new court  
s to be located in the imme-  
owntown area of Vernal, but  
o do know that all of the  
including funding issues,  
be considered as the final  
is made," Mayor Heeney

appreciate the communica-  
at we have had with the  
Administrator's office and  
ward to a good relationship  
em as they make their final  
1 and construction of the  
is commenced."



County, state, Crown and Enron officials shovel dirt during ground breaking of Crown's tar sands facility at Asphalt Ridge: Jonnie Wilkerson, Lewis Vincent, Tony Valentine, Herb Snyder, Jay Mealey, Joe Roberts and Lorin Merrell.

## Officials break ground for first commercial tar sand facility

Thirty-five to forty good-paying jobs are just one of the direct benefits of the world's first tar sands facility located at Asphalt Ridge southwest of Vernal.

County, state and company officials broke ground for the new \$19 million tar sands facility which is a joint venture between Crown Energy Corporation and MCN Investment Corporation.

Crown president Jay Mealey, said

the project, once it is operational as soon as next May, would produce 1,700 barrels a day of road base material from raw asphalt. This project is only the beginning. In the next four to five years the company is planning on putting in two additional facilities, Mealey said.

"We are glad to have the jobs," said Uintah County Commissioner Lewis Vincent, who was at the ground breaking ceremonies last Wednesday. "These will be good paying jobs for the county and it will help everyone on down the line."

"Many have dreamed of a commercial tar sand facility, but today we are seeing the realization of that dream," Mealey said at the ground breaking.

Along Asphalt Ridge which borders Ashley Valley and runs toward the Lapoint Highway, there are 140 to 150 billion barrels of recoverable premium grade asphalt.

The plant will be about 400 feet by 500 feet and located at the base of Asphalt Ridge. The project is located on a portion of Crown's 7,000 acres at Asphalt Ridge.

Uintah County will immediately benefit from the project as the Uintah Special Service District has allowed the company to use its D-10 bulldozer to prepare the site. In exchange for use of the equipment the county will be allowed to use the company's road base material for only a royalty cost of \$1.50 a ton.

"We were running low on good asphalt at our pit," said Commissioner Vincent. "This agreement will allow the county access to inexpensive road material for many years to come."

The county paves 17 to 25 miles of road a year. For over 50 years, Uintah County has been using the native asphalt to pave roads. Usually the material is spread cold and sometimes the material is mixed onsite.

"This will give us a chance to see what the native asphalt will do when spread hot," said Kate Erickson, manager Uintah Special Service District.

## County moves toward land purchase for USU

A resolution passed by the Uintah County Commission Tuesday sets the groundwork for the future expansion of the Utah State

University Vernal Campus.

The resolution approved an inter-local, cooperative agreement with Vernal City which will allow the

issuance of revenue bonds.

The revenue bonds will be used to purchase 13.87 acres at 1782 West 750 South. The property is located just north of the USU campus in Vernal. The property will provide for parking and future expansion of the campus.

## Two-vehicle

